MMR_0450 Brad Morneau

Brad Morneau, MMR MCoR Achievement Program Chairman

Hello fellow modelers! I'm the new MCoR Achievement Program (AP) Chairman. I took over from Marty Vaughn just before the MCoR annual meet in St Louis this year. I would like to first thank Marty for his dedicaϴon to the AP the last 7 ½ years. He did a fantastic job and was instrumental in a large number of us earning our MMR's.

Marty is also a very good record keeper and has left me with a very good start in the new job. I'm also very lucky to know our National AP chairman, Paul Richardson and the past National AP chairman Pat Harriman.

Between Marty, Paul and Pat, I am in really good hands to do this job properly. My current interest in model railroading started about 22 years ago. I've built several layouts, but in 2005 decided to start a new one. When I did, I made a commitment to achieving my MMR while building the new layout.

I decided to try new things while doing it, including DCC, hand-laying track new techniques in scenery etc.

In September of 2010, I earned my seventh AP Certificate, Cars,

and completed my MMR. Since that one, I have also earned my Certificate in Association Official as well.

I believe the AP is one of the best things we have going in the NMRA. It encourages modelers to try things we might never have tried before and gives modelers a strong sense of accomplishment. I also see the AP as a kind of connection to all of the modelers that came before us, especially the ones who started the hobby and most notably the ones who started the NMRA itself.

When I received my MMR, I knew it was a milestone in my development in the hobby, not an end point. So I have tried to assist other modelers by holding AP work sessions at my home. These have been fun and interesting and I believe I end up learning more from the folks who attend then they do! I would strongly encourage you to participate in the AP if you're not already doing so. And if you are, please keep going forward with it.

Brad Morneau is a model railroad enthusiast known for his approach to scratch-building structures. In the world of model railroads, scratch-building refers to creating structures from raw materials rather than using pre-made kits.